INSTALLATION AND DEDICATION OF CARBONDALE HISTORICAL MARKER, CARBONDALE CITY HALL, SEPTEMBER 25, 1982, 10 A.M., SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE TO RESTORE CARBONDALE CITY HALL, INC.

WELCOME by S. Robert Powell, President, Committee to Restore Carbondale City Hall, Inc.

- Welcome Senator Robert Mellow, Representative Frank A. Serafini, Mr. Robert Smith (Director of Research & Planning, Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania), Mr. Joseph Masco, members of the Committee, citizens of Carbondale.

- Thank the Mayor and the City Council for allowing us to conduct these ceremonies in Council Chambers

THE HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION by S. Robert Powell

- On March 4, 1981, Governor Thornburgh signed a proclamation officially launching the celebration of Pennsylvania's three centuries of history. A kep part of the 300th anniversary observance will be the installation and dedication of 67 new historical markers--one for each of the counties--in the Commonwealth. By the end of 1982, all 67 markers will be installed and dedicated. Each of these county markers will be identical in appearance: blue backgrounds and gold lettering topped by the state coat of arms. The content will, of course, be different: underneath the name of the county will be information on its formation and usually the origin of its name and the establishment of the county seat, as well as one or two significant facts distinctive of the county's history.

  These 67 new county markers will supplement the existing 1,400 historical markers that are in place throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The existing 1,400 historical markers in the Commonwealth were all erected by the PHMC, beginning in 1945.

  The man who directed the PHMC's Historical Marker Program when it was instituted in 1945 was a native of northeastern Pennsylvania--THOMAS F. MURPHY. He served as chairman of the marker commission under three governors and had direct input into where to place the signs throughout the state. In that capacity, he caused the first such marker in Lackawanna County to be placed at Gouldsboro, recalling the fact that Jay Gould, the famous financier and industrialist, once operated a tannery there. Over the years, he also had much to do with many of the 20 plus signs that eventually were erected in Lackawanna County.

  In addition to serving the Commonwealth as the chairman of the PHMC's Historical Marker Program during its early years, Thomas F. Murphy served the city of Scranton as Associate Editor of THE SCRANTON TIMES. He was recognized as a leading authority on state and local history. In 1928, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the creation of Lackawanna County, Thomas Murphy wrote his JUBILEE HISTORY OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY, in two volumes. With the gracious permission of Miss Anne